

## **News Release**

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## No cost to homeowners for blue roof, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers emphasizes

Jacksonville, Fla. -- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville

District reminds residents in counties that were affected by Hurricane Wilma that
temporary roof repairs performed by Corps contractors under the Federal
Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Operation Blue Roof are always
completed at no cost to the homeowner.

"Unfortunately, we have learned that some residents have recently received letters threatening a lien against their home for the temporary roof repairs that were made following last year's storm," said Lt. Col. Andrew Goetz, the Corps' deputy district commander for South Florida, who served as commander of the Wilma Recovery Office. "We want residents to rest assured that they do not owe any money to anyone for these repairs, nor can any legal action be taken against them. It's regrettable that any individual or company would further victimize those who have already endured so much."

"If approached by anyone asking for payment or threatening legal action, homeowners should contact their local law enforcement authorities," said Dennis

Henley, security officer for the Corps. Henley further advised that providing physical descriptions of individuals making such claims, as well as a description and license plate number of their vehicle, and/or copies of any letters or other written material that they provide, is helpful to authorities in identifying and stopping these actions.